



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A ball chain, ~~comprising:~~ having a plurality of balls rotatably arranged in one row in a connector belt, the connector belt comprising: ~~including a plurality of ball holding members interposed among the respective balls; and~~
~~a connecting portion, including through holes for containing the plurality of balls and for connecting contiguous ball holding members to each other, the ball holding members including ball receiving portions for embracing a spherical face of each of the plurality of balls~~

a stainless steel sheet formed in a strip shape and having a plurality of through holes, each through hole having a diameter larger than the diameter of the ball for containing the ball; and

a plurality of ball holding members molded by a synthetic resin material to the stainless steel sheet and interposed among the respective through holes, and including spherical seats for embracing a spherical face of each of the plurality of balls.

10-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The ball chain according to claim [[1]] 9, wherein the stainless steel sheet ~~connecting portion~~ is disposed on one side of the plurality of balls.

17-20. (Canceled)